

In the Claims

Please enter the below-indicated amendments:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~An electronic~~ A regulatory compliance method for a plurality of wastewater systems, said plurality of wastewater treatment systems being installed at plurality of different locations, said wastewater treatment systems being serviced by one or more service companies having one or more service personnel, there being at least one regulatory body for monitoring said plurality of wastewater treatment systems with respect to timely servicing of said plurality of wastewater treatment systems, said method comprising:

providing a third party which is an independent non-governmental entity;

automatically monitoring for operational equipment status at each of said plurality of wastewater treatment systems;

automatically notifying said one or more service companies of operational problems detected at each of said plurality of wastewater treatment systems;

detecting a physical presence or a physical absence of said one or more service personnel at each of said plurality of wastewater treatment systems;

determining a time associated with said physical presence of said one or more service personnel at each of said plurality of wastewater treatment systems;

electronically storing inspection data related to scheduled inspections for each of said plurality of wastewater treatment systems;

automatically storing operational data related to said operational equipment status detected at each of said plurality of wastewater treatment systems;

automatically storing time data related to said physical presence of said one or more service personnel at each of said plurality of wastewater treatment systems; [and]

generating a report for said regulatory body related to compliance with said scheduled inspection and timely repairs for each of said plurality of plurality of wastewater treatment systems

based on said inspection data, said operational data, and said time data; and

said third party providing services relating to at least one or more of said previous steps.

2. (Currently Amended) The regulatory compliance method of claim 1, wherein said third party provides certification services. [further comprising:

providing computer capability on behalf of said regulatory body to automatically generate notices of noncompliance with scheduled inspection and timely repairs utilizing said inspection data, said operational data, and said time data for each of said plurality of wastewater treatment systems.]

3. (Currently Amended) The regulatory compliance method of claim 1, wherein said third party administers said steps of automatically storing operation data, automatically storing time data and generating said report. ~~2, further comprising:~~

~~—storing responsible party data related to said plurality of owners for said plurality of wastewater treatment systems and utilizing said responsible party data for addressing said notices of noncompliance.~~

4. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 1, further comprising:

generating a website operable for selectively providing said inspection data, said operational data, and said time data to respective computers of said one or more service companies and said regulatory body.

5. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 4, further comprising:

enabling selective generation of said report by said regulatory body utilizing said website.

6. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 4, wherein a format of said report is selectable by said respective computer of said regulatory body.

7. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 4, further comprising:
providing an inspection schedule for said plurality of wastewater treatment systems that is accessible through said computer network presence by said one or more service companies.

8. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 1, wherein said step of electronically detecting a physical presence further comprises providing one or more mechanical switches adjacent each of said plurality of wastewater treatment systems to be activated by said one or more service personnel for recording said physical presence.

9. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 1, wherein said step of electronically detecting a physical presence further comprises providing an electronic reader adjacent each of said plurality of wastewater treatment systems to be activated by a respective identifier carried each of said one or more service personnel for recording said physical presence.

10. (Currently Amended) The regulatory compliance method of claim 1, determining whether each a respective service contract between one or more owners of said plurality of wastewater systems and said one or more service companies has been timely renewed.

11. (Currently Amended) The regulatory compliance method of claim 10, further comprising:
providing said regulatory body with capability of automatically generating notices of noncompliance to said one or more owners of said plurality of wastewater systems or said one or more service companies where service contracts have not been timely renewed.

12. (Currently Amended) A regulatory compliance system operable with a plurality of wastewater treatment systems, said wastewater treatment systems being serviced by one or more service companies having one or more service personnel, there being a regulatory body for monitoring said plurality of wastewater treatment systems with respect to timely servicing of said

plurality of wastewater treatment systems, said system comprising:

an electronic monitor for producing operational data related to operational problems at each of said plurality of wastewater treatment systems;

a physical presence detector for producing personnel data related to a presence of said one or more service personnel at each of said plurality of wastewater treatment systems;

a clock for providing clock data related to said personnel data for each of said plurality of wastewater treatment systems;

[one or more processors for collecting said operational data, said personnel data, and said clock data;] and

one or more data storage elements for electronically storing inspection data related to scheduled inspections requiring said physical presence of said one or more service personnel for said plurality of wastewater treatment systems, said one or more storage elements being operable for storing said operational data, said personnel data, and said clock data; and

one or more processors programmed for making one or more reports available to said regulatory body, said one or more reports evidencing said physical presence of said service personnel for said scheduled inspection and for timely repairs for each of said plurality of wastewater treatment systems based on said operational data, said personnel data and said clock data.

13. (Currently Amended) The regulatory compliance system of claim 12, further comprising:

a computer network operated by a third party which is an independent non-governmental entity and does not sell or repair or own said plurality of wastewater treatment systems, said computer network being operable for communicating data from said one or more storage elements with one or more computers of said regulatory body.

14. (Original) The regulatory compliance system of claim 12, wherein said clock data provides time and date of said presence of said one or more service personnel at each of said plurality of wastewater treatment systems.

15. (Original) The regulatory compliance system of claim 12, wherein said one or more storage elements are utilized for storing responsibility data related to said plurality of different owners for said plurality of wastewater treatment systems.

16. (Original) The regulatory compliance system of claim 15, wherein said responsibility data comprises address information for contacting responsible parties for said plurality of wastewater treatment systems.

17. (Currently Amended) The regulatory compliance system of claim 12, further comprising one or more network servers operated by a third party which is a non-governmental entity, said one or more network servers being programmed to generate a website accessible by said one or more computers of said regulatory body.

18. (Original) The regulatory compliance system of claim 17, wherein said website comprises selectable options for generating information related to compliance with scheduled inspections and timely repairs for said plurality of wastewater treatment systems, said selectable options comprising an option to provide information indicating noncompliance with regulations related to said scheduled inspections and timely repairs.

19. (Original) The regulatory compliance system of claim 17, wherein said website further comprises selectable options for generating information related to failure to renew service contracts along with said address information for transmission to responsible parties for said plurality of wastewater treatment systems.

20. (Currently Amended) A regulatory compliance system operable with a plurality of environmental equipment systems, said environmental equipment systems being serviced by one or

more service personnel, there being a regulatory body for monitoring said plurality of environmental equipment systems, said system comprising:

an electronic monitor for automatically producing operational data related to operation of each of said plurality of environmental equipment systems;

one or more data storage elements for electronically storing inspection data related to scheduled inspections of said plurality of environmental equipment systems, for storing said operational data, and for storing responsibility data related to responsible parties for said plurality of environmental equipment systems; and

one or more network servers for controlling computer network communications between said one or more storage elements and one or more computers of said regulatory body such that said one or more network servers are programmed to generate a website accessible by said one or more computers of said regulatory body through said computer network, said website comprising selectable options for generating reports related to compliance with said scheduled inspections, said operational data, and said responsible parties for said plurality of environmental equipment systems.

21. (Currently Amended) The regulatory compliance system of claim 20, wherein said website is operated by a third party which is a non-governmental entity. ~~comprises selectable options for printing said reports related to compliance with scheduled inspection requirements and timely repair requirements for each of said plurality of environmental equipment systems.~~

22. (Original) The regulatory compliance system of claim 20, wherein said selectable options comprise an option to provide noncompliance reports indicating noncompliance with scheduled inspection requirements and timely repair requirements for said plurality of environmental equipment systems, said reports indicating noncompliance and comprising address information related to said responsible parties.

23. (Original) The regulatory compliance system of claim 20, wherein said selectable options

comprise an option to provide noncompliance reports indicating failure to renew a service contract.

24. (Original) The regulatory compliance system of claim 20, further comprising selectable printing options accessible by said regulatory body for automatically printing notices related to noncompliance of said scheduled inspections and timely repair regulations for transmission to said responsible parties for said plurality of environmental equipment systems.

25. (Original) The regulatory compliance system of claim 20, wherein said responsibility data comprises ownership data related to ownership of said plurality of environmental equipment systems.

26. (Original) The regulatory compliance system of claim 20, further comprising a personnel detector for said plurality of environmental equipment systems for producing personnel data related to detecting an actual physical presence of said one or more service personnel at said plurality of environmental equipment systems.

27. (Currently Amended) A regulatory compliance method operable with a plurality of environmental equipment systems, said environmental equipment systems being serviced by one or more service personnel, there being a regulatory body for monitoring said plurality of environmental equipment systems, said method comprising:

providing an electronic connection from each of said plurality of environmental equipment systems to one or more computers;

receiving digital data by said one or more computers from said plurality of environmental equipment systems through said electronic connection from each of said plurality of environmental equipment systems;

electronically storing said digital data from said plurality of environmental equipment systems;

electronically connecting to one or more computers of said regulatory body; and
electronically communicating with said one or more computers of said regulatory body
relating to said digital data received from said plurality of environmental equipment systems.

28. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 27, wherein said step of electronically connecting further comprises:

making available a network connection to said one or more computers of regulatory body.

29. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 27, further comprising:
providing that said regulatory body may utilize said digital data for generating reports related to said plurality of environmental equipment systems.

30. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 27, further comprising:
generating reports related to compliance with scheduled inspections and timely repairs for said plurality of environmental equipment systems.

31. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 27, further comprising:
detecting a time and date of a physical presence of said one or more service personnel at said plurality of environmental equipment systems.

32. (Currently Amended) The regulatory compliance method of claim 27, further comprising providing a third party which is an independent non-governmental entity, said third party administering storing of contact data related to communicating with parties responsible for said plurality of environmental equipment.

33. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 32, wherein said contact data related to communicating with parties responsible for said plurality of environmental equipment

comprises address information for contacting said parties.

34. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 27, wherein said digital data further comprises data related to said scheduled inspections, data related to system operations functions detected electronically, and data collected electronically related to system inspections and repairs.

35. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 27, further comprising:
collecting time and date data related to a service personnel presence at each of said plurality of environmental equipment systems;
electronically comparing time and date data relating to requirements for said scheduled inspections and said timely repairs; and
generating reports related to noncompliance with scheduled inspections and timely repairs.

36. (Currently Amended) The regulatory compliance method of claim 27, further comprising:
generating noncompliance notices indicating failure to renew a service contract with said one or more service personnel or companies related thereto.

37. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 27, further comprising:
generating a record of when said environmental equipment system starts initial operation for a first time or after a shutdown wherein repairs are made.

38. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 37, further comprising:
detecting a physical presence of one or more service personnel for said initial operation.

39. (Currently Amended) A compliance method operable with a plurality of environmental equipment systems, said environmental equipment systems being serviced by one or more service

personnel, there being a regulatory body for monitoring said plurality of environmental equipment systems, said method comprising:

collecting digital data from said plurality of environmental equipment systems;
electronically storing said digital data from said plurality of environmental equipment systems;
producing a website; and
providing access to said website by said regulatory body whereby reports related to said digital data from said plurality of environmental equipment systems is retrievable by said regulatory body.

40. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 39, further comprising:
providing access to said website by one or more service companies whereby at least selective of said digital data from said plurality of environmental equipment systems is retrievable by said one or more service companies.

41. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 39, further comprising:
providing that said regulatory body may utilize said digital data for generating reports related to said plurality of environmental equipment systems.

42. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 39, further comprising:
generating reports related to compliance with scheduled inspections and timely repairs for said plurality of environmental equipment systems.

43. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 42, further comprising:
generating noncompliance notices indicating noncompliance of said scheduled inspections and timely repair regulations for said plurality of environmental equipment methods including data related to communicating with parties responsible for said plurality of environmental equipment.

44. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 43, wherein said data related to communicating with parties responsible for said plurality of environmental equipment comprises address information for contacting said parties.

45. (Currently Amended) The regulatory compliance method of claim 39, further comprising storing ~~said~~ data related to communicating with parties responsible for said plurality of environmental equipment.

46. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 39, wherein said digital data further comprises digital data related to said scheduled inspections, digital data related to system operations functions detected electronically, and digital data collected electronically related to system inspections and repairs.

47. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 39, further comprising:
electronically collecting data related to a physical presence of said one or more service personnel at said plurality of environmental equipment systems.

48. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 39, further comprising:
generating noncompliance notices indicating failure to renew service contracts.

49. (Currently Amended) A compliance method for monitoring at least thousands of homeowner equipment systems ~~operable with a plurality of environmental equipment systems for monitoring said plurality of environmental equipment systems~~ with respect to timely servicing of said plurality of environmental equipment systems, said environmental equipment systems being serviced by one or more service personnel, said method comprising:

electronically producing operational data related to operations at each of said at least thousands of homeowner equipment systems ~~plurality of environmental equipment systems~~;

producing personnel data related to a physical presence of said one or more service personnel at each of said at least thousands of homeowner equipment systems ~~plurality of environmental equipment systems~~;

electronically providing clock data related to said personnel data for each of said at least thousands of homeowner equipment systems ~~plurality of environmental equipment systems~~; and

automatically collecting said operational data, said personnel data, and said clock data; and electronically generating accumulated reports relating to said operational data, said personnel data, said clock data, and said inspection data.

50. (Currently Amended) The compliance method of claim 49, further comprising:

electronically storing inspection data related to scheduled inspection requirements requiring said physical presence of said one or more service personnel for each of said at least thousands of homeowner equipment systems ~~plurality of environmental equipment systems~~.

51. (Currently Amended) The compliance method of claim ~~49~~ 50, further comprising:

~~electronically sending accumulated reports relating to said operational data, said personnel data, said clock data, and said inspection data to said regulatory body~~
utilizing an independent non-governmental entity as a third party to administer at least said step of electronically providing clock data.

52. (Currently Amended) The compliance ~~system~~ method of claim ~~49~~ 50, further comprising:

generating a website accessible by [said] ~~a~~ regulatory body.

53. (Currently Amended) The compliance ~~system~~ method of claim ~~49~~ 50, further comprising:

generating reports related to compliance with scheduled inspections and timely repairs for at least selective of said at least thousands of homeowner equipment systems ~~plurality of~~

~~environmental equipment systems.~~

54. (Currently Amended) The compliance ~~system~~ method of claim 50, further comprising:
generating notices related to noncompliance with said scheduled inspection requirements or
timely repair requirements for transmission to parties responsible for ~~said~~ respective of said at least
thousands of homeowner equipment systems ~~plurality of environmental equipment systems.~~

55. (Currently Amended) The regulatory compliance method of claim 49, further comprising:
generating a record of when one or more of said at least thousands of homeowner equipment
systems ~~said environmental equipment system~~ starts initial operation for the first time or after
shutdown during which repairs are made.

56. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 55, further comprising:
detecting a physical presence of one or more service personnel for said initial operation.

57. (Currently Amended) The compliance method of claim 49, further comprising:
generating noncompliance notices indicating failure to renew service contracts with said one
or more service personnel or companies related thereto.

58. (Currently Amended) A compliance method operable for use with a plurality of
environmental equipment systems for monitoring said plurality of environmental equipment systems
with respect to timely servicing of said plurality of environmental equipment systems, said method
comprising:

providing a third party which is an independent entity;

electronically collecting operational data related to operations at each of said plurality of
environmental equipment systems;

producing personnel data related to a physical presence of said one or more service personnel

at said plurality of environmental equipment systems;

providing clock data related to said personnel data for each of said plurality of environmental equipment systems;

collecting said operational data, said personnel data, and said clock data; ~~and~~

electronically storing inspection data related to scheduled inspections requiring said physical presence of said one or more service personnel for each of said plurality of environmental equipment systems; and

said third party providing services relating to at least one of the above steps.

59. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 58, further comprising:

producing a website accessible by said regulatory body whereby reports related to accumulated operational data, personnel data, clock data, and inspection data from said plurality of environmental equipment systems are retrievable by a regulatory body.

60. (Currently Amended) The compliance method of claim 59, further comprising:

said third party providing at least selective access to said website by one or more service companies whereby at least partial access to said accumulated reports related to operational data, said personnel data, said clock data, and said inspection data for said plurality of environmental equipment systems is retrievable by said one or more service companies.

61. (Original) The compliance method of claim 58, further comprising:

providing that a regulatory body may selectively generate reports based on said operational data, said personnel data, said clock data, and said inspection data related to said plurality of environmental equipment systems.

62. (Original) The compliance method of claim 58, further comprising:

generating reports related to compliance with said scheduled inspections and timely repairs

for said plurality of environmental equipment systems.

63. (Currently Amended) The compliance method of claim 59, further comprising:
generating noncompliance notices indicating noncompliance of said scheduled inspections and timely repair regulations for said plurality of environmental equipment ~~methods~~ systems whereby said noncompliance notices include data related to communicating with parties responsible for said plurality of environmental equipment.

64. (Currently Amended) The compliance method of claim 59, further comprising:
generating noncompliance notices indicating failure to renew service contracts with one or more service personnel who service said plurality of environmental equipment systems or companies related thereto.

65. (Currently Amended) A compliance system for a plurality of environmental equipment systems operable for monitoring said plurality of environmental equipment systems at a plurality of different sites and with respect to timely servicing of said plurality of environmental equipment systems, there being at least one regulatory body for monitoring said plurality of environmental equipment systems with respect to timely servicing of said plurality of wastewater treatment systems, said system comprising:

an electronic monitor for producing operational data related to environmental equipment operational status at each of said plurality of environmental equipment systems;

a physical presence detector for producing personnel data operable to verify the ~~related to a~~ physical presence of one or more service personnel at each of said plurality of environmental equipment systems;

a clock for providing clock data related to said personnel data for each of said plurality of environmental equipment systems; ~~and~~

one or more processors for collecting said operational data, said personnel data, and said

clock data for said plurality of environmental equipment systems; and

a computer network, said computer network being operable for communicating data from one or more storage elements to one or more computers of said regulatory body.

66. (Currently Amended) The compliance system of claim 65, wherein said further comprising:

one or more data storage elements are utilized for electronically storing inspection data related to scheduled inspections requiring said physical presence of said one or more service personnel for each of said plurality of environmental equipment systems, said one or more storage elements being operable for storing said operational data, said personnel data, and said clock data.

67. (Currently Amended) The compliance system of claim 65, further comprising:
~~a computer network, said computer network being operable for communicating data from said one or more storage elements to one or more computers of said regulatory body~~ an independent non-governmental entity for administering said one or more data storage elements.

68. (Original) The compliance system of claim 65, wherein said clock data provides a time and a date of said physical presence of said one or more service personnel at said plurality of environmental equipment systems.

69. (Original) The compliance system of claim 65, wherein said one or more storage elements are utilized for storing responsibility data related to a plurality of different owners for said plurality of environmental equipment systems.

70. (Original) The compliance system of claim 65, wherein said responsibility data comprises address information for contacting responsible parties for said plurality of environmental equipment

systems.

71. (Original) The regulatory compliance system of claim 65, further comprising one or more network servers programmed to generate a website accessible by said one or more computers of a regulatory body.

72. (Original) The regulatory compliance system of claim 71, wherein said website comprises selectable options for generating information related to compliance with scheduled inspection requirements and timely repair requirements for said plurality of environmental equipment systems, said selectable options comprising an option to provide information indicating noncompliance with regulations related to said scheduled inspection requirements and said timely repair requirements.

73. (Original) The regulatory compliance system of claim 65, further comprising:
means for generating a record of when said environmental equipment system is placed in operation for the first time or after being shut down for repairs.

74. (Original) The regulatory compliance system of claim 73, further comprising:
means for detecting a physical presence of one or more service personnel related to said equipment system being placed into operation.

75. (Currently Amended) A regulatory compliance method operable with a plurality of environmental equipment systems, said environmental equipment systems being serviced by one or more service companies having one or more service personnel, there being a third party; and a regulatory body for monitoring said plurality of environmental equipment systems with respect to timely servicing of said plurality of environmental equipment systems, said method comprising:
receiving digital data related to said timely servicing of said plurality of environmental equipment systems by one or more computers of said third party;

electronically storing said digital data related to said plurality of environmental equipment systems; and

reporting from said third party to said regulatory body regarding said received digital data relating to said timely servicing of said plurality of environmental equipment systems.

76. (Currently Amended) The regulatory compliance method of claim 75, further comprising: making available a network connection to one or more computers of said regulatory body from said one or more computers of said third party.

77. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 75, further comprising: generating reports related to noncompliance for said plurality of environmental equipment systems, and sending said reports to said one or more service companies and to parties responsible for said plurality of environmental equipment systems.

78. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 75, further comprising: generating reports related to compliance with scheduled inspections and timely repairs for said plurality of environmental equipment systems.

79. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 75, further comprising: detecting a time and date of a physical presence of said one or more service personnel at said plurality of environmental equipment systems.

80. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 75, further comprising storing contact data related to communicating with parties responsible for said plurality of environmental equipment.

81. (Currently Amended) The regulatory compliance method of claim [81] 80, wherein said contact data is related to communicating with parties responsible for said plurality of environmental equipment comprises address information for contacting said parties.

82. (Currently Amended) The regulatory compliance method of claim 75, wherein said digital data further comprises data related to schedules for inspections, data related to system operations functions detected electronically, and data collected electronically related to a physical presence of said one or more service personnel at said plurality of environmental systems for inspections and repairs.

83. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 75, further comprising:
collecting time and date data related to a service personnel presence at each of said plurality of environmental equipment systems,
electronically comparing time and date data relating to requirements for scheduled inspections and said timely repairs, and
generating reports related to noncompliance with scheduled inspections and timely repairs.

84. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 75, further comprising:
generating noncompliance notices indicating failure to renew a service contract.

85. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 75, further comprising:
generating a record of when said environmental equipment system starts initial operation for a first time or after a shutdown wherein repairs are made.

86. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 85, further comprising:
detecting a physical presence of one or more service personnel for said initial operation.

87. (Original) The regulatory compliance method of claim 75, wherein said one or more environmental equipment systems comprise one or more wastewater treatment systems.

88. (New) The regulatory compliance method of claim 75, wherein said third party is an entity which provides certification services.